

FISCAL NOTE

HB 2540 - SB 2666

February 19, 2008

SUMMARY OF BILL: Requires the Department of Children's Services to house children in state custody who are 18 and older and are adjudicated delinquent for an offense against a child prior to his or her 18th birthday in a separate facility from children who are under the age of 18.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

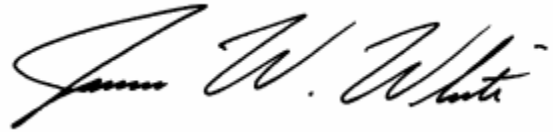
Increase State Expenditures - \$1,261,100

Assumptions:

- The Department of Children's Services (DCS) estimates that, on average, 133 children will have to be segregated within one of the Youth Development Centers resulting in a disruption of the treatment plan and requiring extended travel to court hearings.
- DCS estimates that each child will be transported two times a year. Once for the initial transport to the facility and once for a court hearing releasing them from custody. Two staff positions are required for youth transport resulting in an increase in expenditures of \$47,305 (266 transports x 2 positions x 6 hours per transport x \$14.82 per hour).
- According to DCS, all children in state custody are part of a seamless case management system, meaning that the child is assigned one case manager for the duration of his or her custody. This will require case managers to travel to the facility where the 18 year old is housed.
- Case managers make monthly visits resulting in an increase in expenditures of \$220,248 (133 children x 12 visits x 300 miles roundtrip x \$.46 per mile).
- On average, the delay in a child being released due to changes in treatment will require an additional 30 days of state custody. For each additional day there will be an approximate increase of \$249 in expenditures per child. Such will increase expenditures by \$993,510 (133 cases X 30 days X \$249 per day).

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "James W. White". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "James" and last name "White" clearly legible, and "W." in the middle.

James W. White, Executive Director

/kml